

SUPERFUND

Fact Sheet

TAYLOR LUMBER AND TREATING REMOVAL *Sheridan, Oregon*



U S ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION 10

March 2000

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Taylor Lumber and Treating, Inc. (TLT) finished removal activities at the TLT facility for the winter season. This fact sheet describes the work that was completed and the removal activities planned for this spring.

The Removal

EPA and TLT removed most of the contaminated soil from ditches adjacent to the facility. Some of the planned removal work was delayed due to the heavy rainfall this winter. One small area was flooded and will be addressed this spring when the rains subside.

Contaminated soils excavated from the facility have been safely stockpiled. EPA has tested the stockpiled soils to determine the levels of contamination. Depending on the levels of contamination and the efficiency of proposed treatment methods, the contaminated soils will either be treated or disposed off-site. Treatment or disposal will begin this summer.

Woodtreating chemicals have reached the groundwater under the site. These chemicals are classified as Non-Aqueous Phase Liquids (NAPLs). Light Non-Aqueous Phase Liquids (LNAPLs), such as diesel fuel, are less dense than water. As they move through the soil, they tend to float on the groundwater. Dense Non-Aqueous Phase Liquids (DNAPLs), such as creosote, are heavier than water and tend to sink in the groundwater. DNAPLs are also absorbed into the soil and sediments, making cleanup very difficult. EPA took several additional geoprobe samples to determine if the NAPLs are moving, and if so, what to do about it.

This spring and summer, EPA will place an asphalt cap around the main treatment plant to help accomplish two things. First, the cap will prevent further movement of airborne contaminants, such as arsenic, in airborne dust. Second, it will prevent the additional infiltration of water into the ground,

where the water could be contaminated by woodtreating chemicals in the soils. TLT will place a concrete cover in front of equipment in the main treatment area to achieve the same purposes.

The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (ODEQ) and EPA share responsibilities for making sure environmental rules are followed at TLT. ODEQ issues permits for air emissions and water discharges. EPA oversees hazardous waste management and cleanup.

Community Involvement Plan

Because removal activities at this site are expected to take longer than 120 days, EPA has developed a Community Involvement Plan, or CIP. The CIP is available for your review at the Sheridan Public Library.

Background

The TLT site processes and treats wood. It is located approximately one mile west of Sheridan, Oregon at the intersection of Rock Creek Road and Oregon State Highway 18. The site has a number of buildings including a maintenance shop, a saw-mill, a tank farm with 13 above ground storage tanks, and a laboratory. Willamette Pacific Railroad operates a rail line through the site and hauls treated and untreated wood products twice a day.

Chemicals used during the treatment of lumber at TLT have been found in high concentrations in the soil, groundwater, and drainage ditches surrounding the facility. The chemicals at the site include pentachlorophenol (PCP), polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), and arsenic. Chemicals of concern

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have also been found in water samples taken from the Yamhill River. These include PCP, PAHs, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), and metals.

EPA has evaluated the site and determined that a threat to human health and the environment exists from prolonged exposure to contaminated soils and water. Immediate action is being taken to prevent exposure to and further migration of the

chemicals found at the site. EPA is using authorities and funding provided by the federal Superfund law to conduct the necessary immediate cleanup activities.

The site is currently being evaluated for placement on the EPA's National Priorities List (NPL). The NPL is a list of sites targeted for further investigation and possible cleanup under Superfund authority.

If you would like more information

A copy of the Action Memorandum, which describes the cleanup actions required by EPA, is located at the Sheridan Public Library for your review. All future documents related to the removal activities will be placed in the Library, at 142 NW Yamhill Street in Sheridan, Oregon.

If you have any questions, please contact one of the following people:

Mike Sibley, On-Scene Coordinator, at (206) 553-1886; or, toll free at 1-800-424-4372

Mike Slater, Oregon Operations Office, at (503) 326-5872

EPA has developed a web site about the removal activities at TLT and will place fact sheets and other information about the removal at this web site. The web address for TLT is: <http://epainotes1.rtpnc.epa.gov:7777/R10/CLEANUP.NSF/sites/TLT>

If you would like to receive future fact sheets about EPA's activities at the TLT facility, please contact **Mike Slater** at (503) 326-5872.



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To ensure effective communication with everyone, additional services can be made available to persons with disabilities by contacting one of the EPA representatives.